

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A liquid ejection head, comprising:

a metallic cavity unit, formed with liquid flow passages respectively continued from a common liquid reservoir to nozzle orifices via pressure chambers;

an actuator unit, in which a plurality of piezoelectric elements are supported on a fixation plate in a cantilevered manner;

a resin casing, formed with a first face onto which the cavity unit is bonded, and an actuator chamber which accommodates the actuator unit therein such that free ends of the piezoelectric elements are abutted onto the cavity unit; and

a metallic reinforcement member, integrally molded with the casing such that at least a part thereof is buried in the casing at the vicinity of the first face, wherein the reinforcement member extends in the casing so as to surround the actuator chamber.

2. (canceled)

3. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein a whole body of the reinforcement member is buried in the casing.

4. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reinforcement member is formed with a hole filled with resin forming the casing.

5. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein a part of the reinforcement member serves as the first face.

6. (currently amended): ~~The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1,~~ A liquid ejection head, comprising:
a metallic cavity unit, formed with liquid flow passages respectively continued from a common liquid reservoir to nozzle orifices via pressure chambers;
an actuator unit, in which a plurality of piezoelectric elements are supported on a fixation plate in a cantilevered manner;
a resin casing, formed with a first face onto which the cavity unit is bonded, and an actuator chamber which accommodates the actuator unit therein such that free ends of the piezoelectric elements are abutted onto the cavity unit; and
a metallic reinforcement member, integrally molded with the casing such that at least a part thereof is buried in the casing at the vicinity of the first face,

wherein the reinforcement member is formed with an anchor member projecting into the casing.

7. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reinforcement member is comprised of a metal selected from the group consisted of stainless steel, nickel, aluminum, aluminized aluminum and nickel-plated aluminum.

8. (withdrawn): A liquid ejection head, comprising:

a metallic cavity unit, formed with liquid flow passages respectively continued from a common liquid reservoir to nozzle orifices via pressure chambers;

an actuator unit, in which a plurality of piezoelectric elements are supported on a metallic fixation plate in a cantilevered manner and arranged in a first direction;

a resin casing, formed with an actuator chamber which accommodates the actuator unit therein such that free ends of the piezoelectric elements are abutted onto the cavity unit; and

a metallic reinforcement member, disposed between the casing and the cavity unit so as to provide a through hole communicated with the actuator chamber, wherein:

the through hole comprises a first part having a first dimension in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction which is substantially equal to a thickness of the fixation plate, and a second part having a second dimension in the first direction which is substantially equal to a dimension between outermost end faces of the piezoelectric elements in the first direction; and

the actuator unit is bonded to the reinforcement member, while the fixation plate is accommodated in the first part of the through hole and the piezoelectric elements are accommodated in the second part of the through hole.

9. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 8, wherein the reinforcement member is formed by laminating a first plate member formed with the first part of the through hole and a second plate member formed with the second part of the through hole.

10. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 8, wherein the reinforcement member is a one-piece member obtained by forging and punching.

11. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 8, wherein a thickness of the reinforcement member is substantially equal to a longitudinal dimension of the piezoelectric elements.

12. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 8, wherein the reinforcement member is integrally molded with the casing.

13. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 12, wherein the reinforcement member is formed with a hole filled with resin forming the casing.

14. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 12, wherein the reinforcement member is formed with an anchor member projecting into the casing.

15. (withdrawn): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 8, wherein the reinforcement member is comprised of a metal selected from the group consisted of stainless steel, nickel, aluminum, aluminized aluminum and nickel-plated aluminum.

16. (new): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reinforcement member is formed with a passage opening.